



Life Changer – Lesson 4

Memory Verse: 2 Corinthians 5:17 "Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!"

Key Point: Only God can change our hearts and lives.

Bible Verse: Acts 17:16–34

SCHEDULE:

Center Time

around 10 minutes

Help the individuals transition by actively engaging them from the beginning. Try setting up centers to color, play with blocks and Play-Doh, or do puzzles.

Memory Verse

Use the Memory Verse page and images to go over the memory verse by placing them in the correct order on the board (personal or pocket chart).

Activity/Coloring Sheet (optional)

Big Group Time (optional)

Lesson

- Read through the lesson below. For a shortened version, just read the bolded words.
- Within the lesson, there are numbers that correspond to the story point pictures. For example, (1) corresponds to the first story point and picture, and so on.
- Allow individuals to place pictures on the board (personal or pocket chart) in sequential order.
- Key Point
- Use the review questions to check for understanding.

Video (optional)

Repeat Key Point & Memory Verse

Use the activities below for repetition of the story points, key points, and memory verse.

- Act out the Story.
- Bean Bag Toss: restate part of the story, memory verse, or key point when tossing.
- Hangman: play hangman using key points or parts of the story.

Activity/Coloring Sheet (optional)

Five Finger Gospel (optional)

LESSON:

This is a story from Acts 17:16-34 in the Bible (1). As **Paul travels**, he goes **to** a city called **Athens** (2). **He sees idols everywhere** (3). An idol is something people worship instead of God. The people in Athens have made rock and wood statues and worship them. As he looks around the city, **he notices** that **one of the idols has a sign that says, “TO AN UNKNOWN GOD.”** (4)

Paul begins speaking to the people there **about the one true God** (5). He is preaching the Good News about Jesus, telling them that Jesus has risen from the dead. The people of Athens think that Paul has some strange ideas. **The people have never heard of this God before** (6). Paul speaks to them and tells them, “I ... found an altar to an ‘unknown god’ you worship. Now I am going to tell you about this ‘unknown god,’ the God you do not know.”

He begins to tell the people, “He is the God who made the world and everything in it (7). He is the Lord of heaven and earth. He gives life and breath to all people. He also gives them everything else they have.” Paul tells the people that God commands people to turn away from their sin and explains how they can know this God who raised Jesus from the dead.

Some people laugh at Paul and make fun of what he is saying (8). But **others become followers and believe in Jesus** (9). Jesus is not an unknown god to them any longer. They know the real God. He is the only God and is worthy of being worshiped and the only one who can change people’s hearts and lives.

Again, God uses Paul’s changed life to speak to others about Jesus. More lives are changed as people hear the truth about who God is. God is a Life Changer. He can change our lives and hearts, too.

Key Point: Only God can change our hearts and lives.

Review Questions

Group A	Group B
What was the name of the city Paul was visiting in today’s lesson? (Athens)	What did Paul see everywhere in Athens? (Idols made of wood and rock.)
What does Paul see everywhere? (Idols)	What were the idols for? (People worshiped them.)
Had the people heard of our God before? (No)	What did Paul tell the people in Athens about? (The one true God worth worshiping and the Good News of Jesus’ death and that he was raised from the dead.)
Who made the world and everything in it? (God)	What happened when Paul told the people about God? (Some of them believed and their lives were changed.)
Do some people become followers and believe in Jesus after hearing Paul? (Yes)	